



Missouri Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

PHOTOGRAPHY POLICY

A. Videotaping in an environment where many people may be using sign language can inadvertently capture conversations of people in the background who are not aware that they are being filmed. Thus, videotaping at the Missouri Statewide Interpreters Conference may involve privacy concerns. Furthermore, videotaping of workshops and performances may infringe upon the intellectual property rights of the presenters. Last, videotaping may disturb or distract presenters. Therefore, there shall be **no videotaping allowed** at the Missouri Statewide Interpreters Conference with the following exceptions:

1. The Missouri Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (MCDHH) hires a professional audiovisual (AV) company for filming the Opening and Closing presentations at the conference.
2. MCDHH staff members may videotape parts of the conference for MCDHH purposes.
3. Presenters and working interpreters may arrange to have their performances videotaped with prior approval from MCDHH staff. In such circumstances, only the interpreter and/or presenter may be taped.
4. Representatives of the news media may videotape briefly with the prior approval of the MCDHH staff.

B. Unlike videotaping, still photography does not capture the conversations of signers. Nor is it capable of capturing the words of a presenter, and thus possibly infringing on the intellectual property rights of a speaker. However, flash photography may disturb and distract presenters, and may interfere with the lighting set up by the AV company. Therefore, still photographs may be taken throughout the conference with the following conditions:

1. **No flash photography is allowed** except by MCDHH staff members when necessary for conference purposes.
2. Anyone taking a photograph should always obtain the permission of the principal person(s) who will be in the picture.

